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PROFESSOR L. M. PIOTROVSKIY: 35 YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC AND PEDAGOGICAL ACTIVITY

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Ludvig Marianovich Piotrovskiy was born in Kovno on 18 January 1886. On completing the gymnasium course in 1907, he entered the Electromechanical Faculty of Petersburg Polytechnic Institute, and there demonstrated special interest in electrical machinery. In 1914, he made a trip to France and Switzerland where he became acquainted with a number of electrotechnical installations and electrified railroads.

In 1912, Piotrovskiy completed a thesis entitled, "The Design of Single-Phase Commutating Motors." Extracts from this valuable work were published in the "Izvestiya Politekhnicheskogo Instituta" for 1914, and have not lost their importance and interest to the present day. This article gave an original method of calculating single-phase commutating motors which permitted evaluating the effects of such factors as frequency, voltage, and type of winding on the dimensions of the machine.

In the scholastic year 1913 - 1914, Piotrovskiy, after being appointed Junior Laboratory Worker in the Electric Machine Laboratory of the Polytechnic Institute, began his pedagogical work in the Higher Technical School. During this period, he published a lithographed guide for work in the Electric Machine Laboratory for nonelectrical students enrolled in this course. This textbook ran through three editions.

From 1916 to 1918, Piotrovskiy worked on the electrical equipment of the Naval Fortress in Revel. Concurrently with his teaching in the Polytechnic Institute, he taught a course on electrical machinery in the Navy Komsostav (Staff) School, up to 1922, and in the Navy Engineering Academy of the RKKA (Worker's and Peasant's Red Army) from 1923 to 1939.

In 1930, Piotrovskiy was appointed professor of the Leningrad Polytechnic Institute. In March 1938, after successful defense of his doctor's dissertation on the subject, "The Induction Motor with Varying Parameters," he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Technical Sciences.

During his pedagogical activity in Leningrad Polytechnic Institute and in other educational institutions, Piotrovskiy wrote several textbooks on electrical machinery. These have won wide recognition far beyond the limits of Leningrad Polytechnic Institute, and have played a great part in developing electrical engineering education in the USSR.

Piotrovskiy also is famous as a methodist of high qualifications. In 1936, he was entrusted with management of the Methodology Cabinet of Leningrad Polytechnic Institute, which accomplished great work under his leadership. In this capacity, he worked out a procedure for teaching a course for DC electric motors and transformers, and prepared a great number of engineers, electricians, and scientific workers. Their number includes: Docent Ye. R. Pal'; Docent L. A. Lomonosova; Docent L. P. Gnedin, Professor of the Naval Academy of RKKA, V. Yu. Goryainov, Docent of the same academy, F. B. Semikin, and others.

Piotrovskiy is the author of a considerable number of research works printed in Soviet scientific and technical journals. His basic scientific research has been in the field of experimental and theoretical problems of dynamo construction. He also has worked out special investigative methods, and has derived formulas for calculating the dispersion of magnetic fields under factory conditions. A large section of his work has been devoted to problems of the geometric position of currents in induction motors.

An article by Piotrovskiy generalizing a number of investigations was published in Elektrichestvo, No 2, 1946.

Among his original works is a method proposed for designing transformers, explained in the textbook Transformatory (Transformers) published in 1935.

From May 1943 to June 1944, Piotrovskiy carried out considerable work in Tashkent, for which he was awarded the Honorary Charter of the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek SSR on the recommendation of Uzbekenergo. In Tashkent, he was in charge of the Chair of Electrical Machinery of the Central Asia Industrial Institute.

In marking the 35th anniversary of the scientific and pedagogical career of L. M. Piotrovskiy, electrical engineering circles of the country express assurance that his creative work will continue to be devoted to the traditional service of his country.

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